

***The Covenant of Our  
Congregation  
Adopted in 1962***

*We do hereby set forth the principles of the Christian faith as commonly held among us, believing that no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

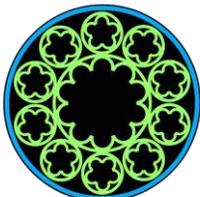
*It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.*

*Our fellowship shall not be dependent upon identity of theological opinion, or of outward circumstance, or of denominational concern, but shall grow from a common loyalty to Jesus, a common commitment to serve the world we touch, and a common purpose to do justly, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.*

*Our ideal is a church of the open mind, the warm heart, the hopeful spirit, and the social vision which ever seeks to express, in all walks of life, the mind of Jesus.*



*July 31, 2016*



***First Reformed Church***  
8 North Church Street  
Schenectady, New York, 12305  
(518) 377-2201  
[www.1stReformed.com](http://www.1stReformed.com)

## Welcome to First Reformed Church

*We are a welcoming and affirming congregation and absolutely everyone is invited to our worship, activities, and service.*

If you are a first time visitor we hope you feel at home here. Please fill out a little white pew card and place it in the offering plate and join us after the service for coffee and refreshments. Stop by a welcome table at the entrance to the Sanctuary.

### Non Emergency Number

Schenectady Police: 518-630-0911

### Parking

You may park in **any** of the lots around the church or the Stockade Inn on Sunday mornings.

### Need Help?

Large print bulletins and audio receivers are available to assist you. Please ask an usher. Special bulletins for children are also available. Restrooms are located out the front right doorway of the sanctuary.

### Elders in Worship

Past and current leaders we call 'Elders' walk in together at the beginning of worship and sit in the front pew. This is to identify them as servants of the mission of the church and make it easy to see who you might talk to about the life of our congregation.

### Joining the Congregation

To become a member of the congregation, there is a one-time orientation, a meeting with the governing board, and a reception in worship. If you are interested in the next orientation please fill out a white pew card.

### Communion

Our congregation celebrates the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of the month. All followers of Christ are invited to share this meal.

### Hearing Assistance



We have a hearing aid loop system that will make it easier to hear. Ask an usher.

### Child Care on Sunday

Childcare for children through age four is available from 9:45am until noon in Dykstra Chapel, which is located in the back left corner of the Sanctuary.

### Church School

All children in grades K-8 are welcome to join in our Church School activities by leaving immediately after the Children's Message. Parents can pick up their children at 11:15am upstairs in room 20.

### Church School on Communion Sundays

On Communion Sundays (the first Sunday of the month) youth in grades 3-8 remain in the service to participate in Communion while those in grades K-2 are welcome to go upstairs after the Children's Message for church school activities.

### Children's Worship Bulletins

Special bulletins for children, ages 3-6 and 7-12 are available each Sunday. If the ushers are not handing them out, just ask for one.

### After Worship

Typically after worship, during the summer months, people stop for a chat and refreshments in Huntley Garden (weather permitting) before going to a learning opportunity that lasts until noon. Visitors are welcome to join in.

### Service Online

A recording of each of our worship services is at [1stReformed.com](http://1stReformed.com) one or two days following the service.

### Lost and Found

We have a lost and found basket in the Narthex (at the front entrance of the church). If you have lost/misplaced an item at church, please check this basket.

# Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 31, 2016

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Bob Ridgeway

*On Eagles Wings (Psalm 91)* Michael Joncas

*Traveler* Fernando Ortega

*No Frontiers* Jimmy McCarthy

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Jonathan Vanderbeck

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Daniel Carlson

\*HYMN

ILLUMINATION AND GUIDANCE

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil 79

Capo 1: (D) Eb (F#m) Gm (G) Ab (D/F#) Eb/G (Em) Fm (D) Bb  
Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your  
(DM7) EbM7 (A7) Bb7 (D) Eb (F#m7) Gm7 (G) Ab (D/F#) Eb/G  
Word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where  
(Em7) Fm7 (G/A) Ab/Bb (A7) Bb7 (D) Eb (Em7) (D/F#) (G) Ab (D/F#) Eb/G  
love can grow and peace is un-der-stood. When my heart is hard,  
(Em7) Fm7 (G/A) Ab/Bb (A) Bb (G) Ab (D/F#) Eb/G (Em7) Fm7 (G/A) Ab/Bb (A) Bb  
break the stone a-way. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.  
(Bb dim7) Bdim7 (Bm) Cm (G) Ab (Gm/Bb) Abm/Cb (D/A) Eb/Bb (G/A) Ab/Bb  
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart,  
(D) Eb (G/A) Ab/Bb (D/F#) Eb/G (G/A) Ab/Bb (Em/D) Fm/Eb (D) Eb  
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**O gracious God, your gifts fill all creation!  
Forgive us for failing to offer you our  
thanks and for neglecting to share with  
others your abundant blessings. Illumine,  
direct, and empower us by your Spirit, so  
that we shall not be condemned as needy  
fools, but rather commended as friends of  
Jesus, in a life that is rich toward you.**

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;  
God's love is strong and it never ends!**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

(*from Our Song of Hope*)

**We hear the Spirit's call  
to love one another  
opposing discrimination of race or sex,  
inviting us to accept one another,  
and to share at every level  
in work and play  
in church and state  
in marriage and family  
and so fulfill the law of Christ.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING Bob Ridgeway

*Mine* Bob Ridgeway and Bill Levering

FIRST LESSON Amy Brule

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit  
**Amen.** *Psalm 49:1-12 (pg 518)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Luke 12:13-21 (pg74)*

SERMON Daniel Carlson

*On Guard Against All Kinds of Greed*

\*HYMN *Lord of All Good* #375

OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

*You Raise Me Up*

Rolf Lovland, Brenda Graham

\*DOXOLOGY #592

*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*HYMN *Fight the Good Fight* #307

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Sicilian Mariners  
*Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*

+ + +

## Prayers of the People

Requests for prayer may be noted on a pew card and placed in the offering plate. We pray regularly for those who are ill, those who serve their country, those who hunger, and those who are our enemies. As part of our prayers this morning, we remember with thanksgiving members of our church who entered eternal rest in previous years about this time:

*Robert Templeton, William Hubbard, Charles VanWie, Bill Piper*

If you are aware of a departed member, whose name has not been noted near the anniversary of their death, please contact the church office.

## Celebratory or Memorial Flowers

A flower calendar is posted on the right side of the Poling House entrance to the sanctuary wherein you can choose a date for donating flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. Please inform the church office of your wishes. The cost of the flowers is \$30 for two bouquets. You may send your check payable to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309.

## Music Notes

Our Response of Praise is a joyful declaration first heard by John Bell at the Sunrise Hospice in S. Africa. Words and transcription copyright 2008 WGRG, Iona Community Scotland, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700.

## Faith Bookshop

If you find it closed, a Bookshop committee member will be glad to help you. Seek out Birdie Blackmer, Bill Clock, Ginny Laumeister or Nancy Wainwright.

## Church School for Summer

There will always be a prepared craft or game activity for the children each Sunday if anyone chooses to attend. We may be meeting upstairs in room 20, or outside (weather permitting), but you will always pick up your children in room 20. Contact Blythe to volunteer to help.

## Youth Group Schedule

Our youth group does not meet regularly during the summer months, but stay tuned for special activities to come! If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact Stacey at revstacey@gmail.com.

## First Forum will resume in the Fall

Forum happens after worship most Sundays at 11:15am in Poling Chapel. Suggestions for programs are welcome from any committee or member; simply contact: Amy Brule 785-8201, Peggy King 370-1885, or Joe Doolittle 384-1700



### **Summer Refreshments**

Whenever possible, our post service refreshments will be served in the Huntley Garden. Please consider signing up for preparation, cleanup, and refreshments by yourself or with a friend. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in Assembly Hall.

### **Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5:00 pm**

**Today:** ‘Azzaam Hameed, piano

**Aug 7:** Tim Olsen Trio

**Aug 14:** Mike Lamkin, piano

### **Summer Playground Dates on Mondays**

Every Monday at 10am until the end of August, we will meet at *Niskayuna’s River Road playground* for a playground date. All ages are welcome. There will be refreshments provided, not guaranteed to be healthy but will be nut free. The play date is scheduled for 1 hour. Blythe Czwakiel, our Children’s Ministry Director, will be there for any questions and/or suggestions for the Children’s Education Program. Please join us for some fun!

### **Prayer Shawl Knit Group**

We are not meeting in July or August, but will resume in September.

### **Pocket Prayer Shawls**

Designed to fit in a pocket, purse, or backpack and can travel with you. The pocket shawl can remind you of God's comfort, support and closeness. Hold this prayer shawl in your hand and be reminded that God is always with you. Pocket prayer shawls will be available on the tables at the entrances to the sanctuary and in the church office. There is no charge for the shawls.

### **Horizon Bible Study for Fall**

Horizon's Bible study materials on "Who Is Jesus?" have arrived and can be obtained from Peg Miller for \$8 per copy. The new study will begin on September 13.

### **Archaeology at FRC Open House – Aug 6**

First Reformed has been having a very successful Community Archaeology Program (SCCC-CAP). If you are curious about the excavation that has been happening in the church’s front yard, there will be an open house on Saturday, August 6, from 10am to 2pm. Stop by and check it out.

### **Camp Fowler Open House/Fundraiser-Aug 6**

From 2 - 4pm, bring your family and friends to the beach and swim, kayak, and canoe. Camp tours available. At 4pm in the Chapel, the Sacandaga String Band, led by Jordan White will play a benefit concert. From 5 - 6:30pm enjoy a Clements’ Old Fashion Chicken BBQ (fund raiser) for \$15. All are welcome, but a RSVP is appreciated. *Contact Jen Kenneally at 518-399-9032 or jakenneally@aol.com*

### **Summer Choir - August 7**

On Sunday, August 7 the Chancel Choir will prepare an easy communion anthem for the service. We rehearse at 9am in the Sanctuary and since some of us will be away traveling, it would be great to have some additional voices. Startup date for the fall will be Thursday, September 7.

### **Baptismal Buddies – August 7**

This group of parents and recently and soon to be baptized and their parents shall gather again. On, Sunday, August 7, right after worship in the Poling Chapel where we'll enjoy some fellowship with refreshments and receive basic CPR training for emergency care of infants and children led by a professional first responder. Contact Daniel Carlson if you'd like to attend.

### **Summer Kerygma Conversations-Aug 10**

Meets every other Wednesday of July and August, 9:30-11am, usually in the Dirck Romeyn room. Contact Rev. Carlson to participate.

### **Midmonth Evening Meal & Worship-Aug. 10**

Join us in a few weeks at 6pm in Assembly Hall for a delicious dinner-- the main dish is provided; sides, salads, and desserts are invited. A brief contemplative service follows at 7pm, in the quiet of Poling Chapel where we attend to the love of God for all creation via guitar accompanied songs, guided meditation on Scripture, Communion, prayers, and Christ's peace.

### **Summer Ice Cream Socials at the Levering's House**

Bill and Abby will be hosting a time at their place for ice cream and fellowship. While they are inviting certain folks, come on by if you are bored. We will start at 7pm and be done by dark.

### **August 14 – Great Consistory**

Elders and Deacons ever ordained in any denomination are welcome to gather and share the wisdom of the ages.

### **The Short-Short Writing Group – Aug 16**

A writing critique group meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Dirck Romeyn room. Short-Shorts are stories, essays, memoirs, or other non-fiction works told in 1,000 words or less. Contact James Gonda for more info, at [jgonda12309@gmail.com](mailto:jgonda12309@gmail.com).

### **Call For Submissions!**

The *Beverwyck Anthology* is now accepting submissions for its Fall 2016 issue. Deadline for submissions is August 31. Fiction, non-fiction, travel pieces, memoir, all told in 1,000 words or less are acceptable. Submissions may be emailed as a WORD doc to Rudy and Kathy Petersen, Editors-in-Chief, at [threeoaksgarden@yahoo.com](mailto:threeoaksgarden@yahoo.com).

### **Church Library Story Time – August 20**

All new this summer, we are pleased to invite you and your children and all of their friends to *STORY TIME*. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of August we will have Story Time in the library. It will include either a read, or told story, and access to the Library for book check out. Refreshments will be available for adults and children in Assembly Hall. We meet in the Library at 10am.

### **Classis Assessment**

You have received a letter about our Classis assessment. We are currently assessed \$93.91 a member to keep the denomination & its mission going. It's a lot, but we don't mind since it keeps us together nationally. It's sort of a franchise fee per member.

### **SICM Summer Lunches at Yates**

First Reformed members are needed to volunteer everyday for four weeks in August: the weeks of August 8, 15, 22, and 29. It will take one and a half hours of your time. Please sign up in Assembly Hall or the office. You can do one day, one day a week, each day for one week, or whatever fits your schedule. Contact Ellie Rowland at [erowland@nycap.rr.com](mailto:erowland@nycap.rr.com) or 250-4302.

### **Stock Contributions**

We love to receive contribution of stock and they are a good way to get a good deduction for appreciated stock without paying tax. However, sometimes brokers don't tell us what is going on. So if you give a gift of stock, please let us know so that we can get the right number in the right place. Contact Heather and let her know. And thanks.

### **Shepherds Needed to Feed the Sheep**

FRC is committed to provide lunch at the Salvation Army on: Sept. 7, Oct. 5, and Nov. 9 in 2016. Join three friendly servers at the Salvation Army from 11am-1:30pm. We have fun! Contact Connie Young at 393-7061 or [cyoung50@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cyoung50@nycap.rr.com).

The world says: “you have needs - - satisfy them. You have as much right as the rich and mighty. Don’t hesitate to satisfy your needs; indeed, expand your needs and demand more.” This is the worldly doctrine of today. And they believe that this is freedom. The result for the rich is isolation and suicide, for the poor, envy and murder.

-Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*

But I give best when I give from that deeper place; when I give simply, freely and generously, and sometimes for no particular reason. I give best when I give my heart.

- Steve Goodier

Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude.

- A.A. Milne, *Winnie-the-Pooh*

You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

- *Exodus 20:17*

For it is in giving that we receive.

- Francis of Assisi

“Greed is your god, Kaz.”

He almost laughed at that. “No, Inej. Greed bows to me. It is my servant and my lever.”

- Leigh Bardugo, *Six of Crows*

Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

You pray in your distress and in your need; would that you might pray also in the fullness of your joys and in your days of abundance.

- Kahlil Gibran, *The Prophet*

Be sure of this, that no fornicator or impure person, or one who is greedy (that is, an idolater), has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

- *Ephesians 5:5*

There is no fire like passion, there is no shark like hatred, there is no snare like folly, there is no torrent like greed.

- Gautama Buddha

Give what you have. To someone, it may be better than you dare to think.

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others.

- Marcus Tullius Cicero

It’s not having what you want.

It’s wanting what you’ve got.

- Sheryl Crow, *Soak Up The Sun*

In the end, though, maybe we must all give up trying to pay back the people in this world who sustain our lives. In the end, maybe it’s wiser to surrender before the miraculous scope of human generosity and to just keep saying thank you, forever & sincerely, for as long as we have voices.

- Elizabeth Gilbert, *Eat, Pray, Love: One Woman’s Search for Everything Across Italy, India and Indonesia*

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food & clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation & are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

- *1 Timothy 6:6-10*

**Sunday, July 31**

10:00 am ..... Worship  
 10:15 am ..... Church School K-5  
 11:00 am ..... Refreshments  
 2:00 pm ..... Sally Marshall Memorial Service  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

**Monday, August 1**

9:00 am ..... Men's News Group

**Tuesday, August 2**

10:00 am ..... Morning Prayer  
 7:00 pm ..... Short-short Writing Group

**Saturday, August 6**

10:00 am ..... Community Archaeology/FRC  
 ..... Open House on front lawn  
 2:00 pm ..... Camp Fowler Open House

**Sunday, August 7**

9:00 am ..... Choir Rehearsal  
 10:00 am ..... Worship/Communion/  
 ..... Officer Installation  
 10:15 am ..... Church School K-5  
 11:00 am ..... Refreshments  
 11:00 am ..... Baptismal Buddies  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Richard Gardner and Vickie McGowan-Horan	Tom Burgoyne and George Trimarco
<b>Greeters</b>	The Etkin Family	
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Claire Hughes David & Donna Bundy	Sarah Howes and Nancy Wainwright
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Committee Member	Committee Member
<b>Liturgist</b>	Jonathan Vanderbeck	Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Daniel Carlson	Stacey Midge
<b>Processing Elders</b>	James Gonda, Peggy King, Wayne & Amy Brule, Kitty Trimarco, Darwin Brudos	Mary Jewett, Cathy Lewis, Liz Mastrianni, Keith Muse, Del Pierce, Jeanne Shoulder
<b>Reader</b>	Amy Brule	George Trimarco
<b>Refreshments</b>	Chris Kuchar and Amy Brule	Liz Mastrianni and Frank Ralbovsky
<b>Ushers</b>	Tom Burgoyne (head usher), David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Nat & Berta Phipps	Bill Clock (head usher), Jacob Etkin, Nancy Wainwright, Kay Koroma, Ray Bostick